

ABSTRACT

The invention relates to the testing of transmission quality of transmission links in a packet network. According to the invention, the director and responder functionality are made available in a resource server of the packet network. In order to perform a quality test, a connection is set up between the resource server and at least one gateway and potentially between two gateways by a packet-oriented switching center. Test signals are transmitted by the resource server and, after being mirrored at one or two gateways, are transmitted back to the resource server. The broadcast test signals are evaluated for transmission-related reductions in quality, e.g. distortion and attenuation, and the results of this evaluation for different broadcast links are combined in order to obtain information concerning the transmission quality of individual partial links. The invention is advantageous in that it makes complicated and expensive test functions available on centralized resource servers. Since resource servers of this type are, for the most part, already provided for carrying out other functions in the packet network, e.g. IVR server, it is possible, as a rule, to make the test functionality available on existing servers.